



Docket 84236AJA  
Customer No. 01333

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

Thomas M. Smith, et al

INDUCTION SPLICING OF  
PHOTOGRAPHIC FILM STRIPS

Serial No. 10/716,158

Filed 18 November 2003

Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned

Examiner: To Be Assigned

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited today with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*Valerie J. Richardson*  
Valerie J. Richardson  
*March 22, 2004*  
Date

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FOR CONSIDERATION**  
**BY THE OFFICE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99**

Enclosed herewith are patents and/or publications for consideration by the Patent and Trademark Office in regard to the invention claimed in the above-described application. In compliance with §1.56, such documents are listed in the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

Applicants request that the Patent and Trademark Office make of record the above-identified documents. A full text copy of each document is attached, except for copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications. For documents not in English, an English translation or an equivalent English language patent or publication may be attached. Where a translation is not available, a concise explanation of the relevance of each document not in English is included either here or in the specification.

This Information Disclosure Statement (hereinafter "Statement") is submitted according to the following selected paragraph:

- I.  This Statement is being filed under §1.97(b) within three months of the filing date of the application (other than a CPA), or before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination.
  
- II.  This Statement is being filed under §1.97(c), with fee, prior to the mailing date of any of a final action, a notice of allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. Please charge the fee required by §1.17(p) to Eastman Kodak Company Deposit Order Account Number 05-0225. A duplicate copy of this Certification is enclosed.

III.  This Statement is being filed under §1.97(c), with a certification under, §1.97(e) prior to the mailing date of any of a final action, a notice of allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. The undersigned hereby states that (check one):

each item of information contained in this Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

no item of information in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification under §1.97(e) after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

IV.  This Statement is being filed under §1.97(d), with fee and certification under §1.97(e), on or after the mailing date of either a final action, a notice of allowance (but prior to payment of the issue fee) or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. Please charge the fee required by §1.17(p) to Eastman Kodak Company Deposit Order Account No. 05-0225. A duplicate copy of this Certification is enclosed. The undersigned hereby states that (check one):

each item of information in this Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

no item of information in this Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this certification under §1.97(e) after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		Atty. Docket No. <b>84236AJA</b> Customer No. 01333	Serial No. <b>10/716,158</b>			
<p>If AFTER the later date of the first Office Action or 3 months from filing, use only with Rule 97(e) Certificate or Fee</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>RECEIVED MAR 24 2004 U.S. PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED</i></p>						
<b>LIST OF ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b> <small>(Use several sheets if necessary)</small>		<b>Filing Date</b> <b>18 November 2003</b>	<b>Group</b> <b>To Be Assigned</b>			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initial*	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	2,577,570	12-04-1951	Eisenberg			
	3,574,037	04-06-1971	Deans et al			
	3,589,959	06-29-1971	Sander et al			
	3,700,532	10-24-1972	Pierson			
	4,027,435	06-07-1977	Malloy			
	4,029,538	06-14-1977	Vance, Jr.			

<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
Examiner Initial*	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES      NO
	0 497 393	08-05-1992	Europe			X
	0 919 151	06-02-1999	Europe			X
	55-119652	09-13-1980	Japan (Abstract Attached)			X
	57-072816	05-07-1982	Japan (Abstract Attached)			X
	57-073064	05-07-1982	Japan (Abstract Attached)			X
	59-076220	05-01-1984	Japan (Abstract Attached)			X
	62-098307	05-07-1987	Japan (Abstract Attached)			X
	63-182610	07-27-1988	Japan (Abstract Attached)			X
	04-019139	01-23-1992	Japan (Abstract Attached)			X
	07-069369	03-14-1995	Japan (Abstract Attached)			X
	10-000683	01-06-1998	Japan (Abstract Attached)			X
	2001-047511	02-20-2001	Japan (Abstract Attached)			X

<b>OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</b>
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
<small>*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>	